

IN SENATE
OF
THE UNITED STATES,

FEBRUARY 25, 1818.

The joint library committee, to whom was referred the memorial of
Thomas B. Wait & Sons, beg leave to

REPORT:

That the memorialists state, that the second edition of their American state papers, with which Congress has already been furnished, extend no further than to the close of the late war; that they are about to publish a third edition of those papers, with additional volumes, to contain such documents and state papers as are proper for publication, since the close of the late war; one volume of which they are now preparing for the press. They pray that Congress will authorize a subscription for an additional number of the original work, as well as for the succeeding volumes proposed to be published.

They state, that as the confidential documents already published, were such only as were selected from the files of the Senate, there may be others in the House of Representatives, and among the records of the Secretary of State, which may now be printed without detriment to the public interest; and request, if such documents should be found, that they may be published under such restrictions, as Congress may think proper to direct.

And in order that the succeeding volumes of this work may not be liable to imperfection, the memorialists pray, that the Secretary of the Senate, and the Clerk of the House of Representatives may be authorized to supply them, from time to time with the journals, and printed documents of both Houses of Congress.

The committee do not think it expedient to recommend that any arrangements be made at this time, for the further publication of state papers, except the volume the memorialists are now preparing for the press.

They are not informed, nor do they believe that there are any confidential documents on the files of the House of Representatives, which it is expedient now to publish; nor have they such information from the Department of State, as to enable them to form an estimate of the number of documents and papers in that Department, which it would be expedient at this time to publish.

The committee therefore submit a bill to authorize a subscription for the eleventh volume of state papers, proposed to be published by Thomas B. Wait & Sons.

